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Message Text

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ACTION NEA-06

INFO OCT-01 AF-05 IO-03 ADP-00 PA-02 PRS-01 INR-10 NEAE-00

CIAE-00 NSAE-00 RSR-01 RSC-01 EB-05 /035 W
---------- 107232
P R 311026Z AUG 73
FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
TO USINFO WASHDC PRIORITY
SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9623
INFO USINT ALGIERS
AMEMBASSY AMMAN
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
USINT CAIRO
USMISSION USUN NY
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI
AMEMBASSY TUNIS
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM
DIA WASHDC

UNCLAS TEL AVIV 6858

USIAC

USINFO FOR IOR/M, IPS, IBS, INE

BEIRUT FOR VOA AND RAPA

ROME FOR VOA

E.O. 11652: N/A
SUBJ: MEDIA REACTION - PRESS REVIEW AUG 31

1. MEDIA FOCUS ON UNSYG WALDHEIM'S VISIT TO ISRAEL. PRESS REPORTS PROMINENTLY WALDHEIM'S APPARENT "REFUSAL" TO COVER HEAD AT MEMORIAL TO NAZI VICTIMS, BUT ACCOUNTS GENERALLY RESTRAINED AND SUBORDINATED TO SUBSTANCE OF DISCUSSIONS. POLITICAL WRITERS REPORT WALDHEIM COMMUNICATED SYRIA'S RIGID POSITION. DAVAR (ESHED) SAYS MRS MIER URGED
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SECRETARY GENERAL TO TELL EGYPT OF ISRAEL'S INTEREST IN

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UNCONDITIONAL TALKS. HAARETZ STILL UNABLE TO GET ISRAELI
OFFICIAL CONFIRMATION, SAYS ONE OR TWO AIRLINERS COULD BE
REASONABLY SUSPECTED OF PAYING TERRORIST ORGANIZATIONS.
EDITORIALS DISAPPOINTED WITH ICAO'S RESOLUTION CONDEMNING
ISRAEL. AL HAMISHMAR COMMENTATOR BELIEVES ICAO WASTED
OPPORTUNITY TO DISCUSS REAL DANGERS TO AIR TRAVEL. DAVAR (ESHED)
SAYS FEELING OF ISOLATION IS ENHANCING DEFENSIVE TENDENCY IN
ISRAEL. DAVAR (HOROWITZ) SEES DANGER
INHERENT IN US ATTEMPTS
TO TIE SAUDI ARABIA TO US ECONOMY.

2. WALDHEIM'S VISIT: (A) JERUSALEM POST (IND) CONTRASTS
FRANKNESS OF UNSYG'S SPOKESMAN WHO DECLARED THAT MRS MEIR AND
DR WALDHEIM DISCUSSED NEW WAY TO BREAK MID EAST IMPASSE
TO SECRETCY OF ISRAELI SPOKESMEN WHO HAVE BEEN MAINTAINING THAT
WALDHEIM'S VISIT HAS NO OPERATIONL SIGNIFICANCE.
(B) HAARETZ (IND)(MARGALIT) WRITES: "... MRS MEIR TOLD
DR WALDHEIM ISRAEL IS PREPARED TO NEGOTIATE WITH EGYPT, WITHOUT
ANY PRIOR CONDITIONS... WALDHEIM WILL DO WELL IF HE INFORMS
THE EGYTPAN PRESIDENT OF ISRAEL'S WILLINGNESS TO MAKE PEACE..."
MARGALIT CONTINUES: "WALDHEIM HAS EMPHASIZED THAT DAMASCUS
WANTS ISRAEL TO WITHDRAW FROM ALL TERRITORIES AND TO SOLVE THE
PROBLEM OF PELESTINE BEFORE ANY PEACE ARRANGEMENT IS MADE...
MRS MEIR EXPRESSED CONCERN THAT WALDHEIM WILL ENCOUNTER
SAME RIGIDITY... IN OTHER ARAB COUNTRIES AS WELL.. OBSERVERS
SAY THEY DO NOT EXPECT IMMEDIATE OR NOVEL DEVELOPMENTS TO
COME OUT OF WALDHEIM'S TRIP TO EGYPT..."

3. ICAO RESOLUTION: (A) YEDIOT AHARONOT (IND) REPORTS
MR SMEIR SAID (AT MEETING WITH UJA - AUG 30) THAT ICAO'S
CONDEMNATION IS NOT A SHAME FOR ISRAEL, ADDING THAT SHE HERSELF
APPROVED INTERCEPTION SINCE LEBANNON IS CENTER OF TERROR AND
HABASH WORST AMONG TERRORISTS.
(B) COMMENTING ON ICAO'S RESOLUTION CONDEMNING ISRAEL, DAVAR
(HISTADRUT) EDITORIALIST BELIEVES ISRAEL'S HAND ALONE
IS ABLE TO CURB ARAB TERRORIST ORGANIZATIONS. HAARETZ EDITORIAL
COMMENTS: " THE FACT THAT THE US REPRESENTATIVE, TOO, SUPPORTED
THE LEBANESE PROPOSAL TOGETHER WITH THE SOVIET REPRESENTIVE...
PROVES A STATE OF ISOLATION AS HAS NEVER BEEN EXPERIENCED BY
ISRAEL BEFORE... THE INTERCEPTION OF THE LEBANESE PLANE SHOCKED
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OUR FRIENDS.. WHO FIND IT HARD TO ACCEPT OUR DEFENSE. WE ARE NOT
OBLIGED TO ACCEPT ICAO'S RESOLUTION AS A JUST VERDICT.. HOWEVER,
WE WILL DO WELL IF WE REALIZE THAT WE CANNOT EXPECT SUPPORT FOR ALL
OUR MEASURES AGAINST ARAB TERROR..." AL HAMISHMAR (MAPAM)
EDITORIAL SAYS: "ICAO'S CONDEMNATION... CAN CONTRIBUTE NOTHING
TOWARD SAFEGUARDING AIR TRAVEL... THE ORGANIZATION HAS WASTED
AS OPPORTUNITY TO DISCUSS THE REAL DANGERS TO CIVIL AVIATION..."

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4. ISRAEL'S ISOLATION: COMMENTING ON ISRAEL'S INCREASED ISOLATION IN A "HOSTILE WORLD," DAVAR (ESHED) WRITES: " ISRAEL'S POSITION IS INFLUENCED BY THE BALANCE BETWEEN THE AGGREGATE STRENGTH (MILITARY-ECONOMIC-POLITICAL OF THE FORCES ACTING AGAINST IT AND ITS ABILITY TO SHIELD AND DEFEND ITSELF.. BY CREATING A COUNTER THREAT... AS A RESULT OF THE INCREASED ISOLATION OF ISRAEL... ISRAEL'S TENDENCY TO SHIELD AND DEFEND ITSELF IN FACE OF A HOSTILE AND AN UNFAIR WORLD HAS INCREASED... ISRAEL'S FAITH IN LAW AND INTERNATIONAL MORALITY... IN THE VALUE OF INTERNATIONAL GUARANTEES HAS REACHED A ROCK BOTTOM... (THE FEELING) TO FORTIFY BORDERS THAT ISRAEL-AND NOT OTHERS-VIW AS MOST SECURE HAS BEEN INTENSIFIED."

5. OIL PROBLEM: SURVEYING US ENERGY PROBLEM, DAVAR (HOROWITZ) COMMENTS: "THE US IS TRYING TO TIE SAUDI ARABIA TO THE US ECONOMY ALSO BY MEANS OF ATTRACTIVE INVESTMENTS FOR SAUDI ARABIAN CAPITAL IN THE US... HERE LIES THE GREAT DANGER (FOR ISRAEL)...THE EFFORTS TO ATTRACT SAUDI ARABIA AND THE OIL EMIRATES OF THE PERSIAN GULF WILL ENTAIL POLITICAL CONCESSIONS AT ISRAEL'S EXPENSE... A POLITICAL SOLTUION.... COMPRISING SUBORDINATION OF US POLICY TO ARAB COUNTRIES' INTERESTS IS ACCEPTABLE AMONG A NUMBER OF INFLUENTIAL US CIRCLES... THE SITUATION IS GETTING EVEN MORE COMPLICATED DUE TO THE INTERACTION BETWEEN THE OIL CRISIS AND THE MONETARY CRIS.
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